

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>In re Application of:</b> | <b>Chehab et al</b>  |
| <b>Application No.:</b>      | <b>Not Yet Assigned</b>                                      |
| <b>Filed:</b>                | <b>Concurrently Herewith</b>                                 |
| <b>For:</b>                  | <b>Roller Pair For Tensioning Strands of Filter Material</b> |
| <b>Examiner:</b>             | <b>Not Yet Assigned</b>                                      |
| <b>Group Art Unit:</b>       | <b>Not Yet Assigned</b>                                      |

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Docket No.: H01.2I-11736-US01

**Preliminary Amendment**

This preliminary amendment is submitted with this national stage filing under 35 U.S.C. 371 from PCT/EP03/05287 with an International filing date of May 20, 2003 claiming priority from German patent application No. 102 27 378.2 filed June 20, 2002. The application was filed on behalf of International Tobacco Machinery B.V.

If an extension of time is required to make this response timely and no separate petition is enclosed, Applicant hereby petitions for an extension of time sufficient to make the response timely. In the event that this response requires the payment of government fees and payment is not enclosed, please charge Deposit Account No. 22-0350.

Please amend the application as follows: